

## **I. AMENDMENT**

### **Amendment of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

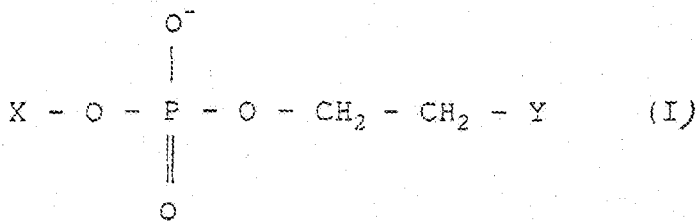
1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of C-reactive protein (CRP)-mediated tissue damage, the method comprising administering to a subject ~~in need thereof~~ suffering from myocardial infarction or stroke an effective amount of a compound capable of inhibiting the binding of CRP to ~~an autologous or extrinsic~~ a ligand thereof;

wherein the compound comprises phosphocholine or a derivative thereof and binds to the calcium-dependent ligand binding site of CRP so as to interfere with binding of CRP to the ~~autologous or extrinsic~~ ligand ~~thereof~~; and

wherein the tissue damage ~~is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia~~ results from myocardial infarction or stroke occurring as a complication of atherosclerosis in the subject.

2-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) ~~A method for the treatment or prevention of CRP-mediated tissue damage, the~~ The method of claim 1, comprising administering to a ~~the~~ the subject ~~in need thereof~~ an effective amount of a compound of general formula (I) which inhibits the binding of CRP to a ligand thereof:



wherein X is H or an organic substituent group, and Y is N substituted to form ammonium;~~and~~

~~wherein the tissue damage is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia.~~

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein X is H or C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> alkyl.
12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein X is C<sub>12</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> alkyl.
13. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein Y is N-R<sub>3</sub>, in which each R is independently selected from C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>5</sub> alkyl.
14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein each R is CH<sub>3</sub>.

15. (Currently amended) ~~A method for the treatment or prevention of CRP-mediated tissue damage, the~~ The method of claim 1, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound comprising hexadecylphosphocholine;

~~wherein the tissue damage is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia.~~

16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method according to any one of claims 1, 10, or 15, ~~47 or 18~~, wherein the subject is a human subject.

20-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~condition~~  
~~comprises a~~ tissue damage results from stroke.

50. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~condition~~  
~~comprises a~~ tissue damage results from stroke.

51-56. (Canceled)

57. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue damage results from  
myocardial infarction.

58. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the tissue damage results from  
myocardial infarction.